THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, 31st March 1955.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at half-past eight of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Reversion of temporary Revenue Divisional Officer, Sivakasi

* 1788 *Q.*—SRI D. K. RAJU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Revenue Divisional Officer, Sivakasi, Ramanathapuram district, has been reverted and transferred;

(*b*) whether the reversion order has been given effect to; and if not, the reasons therefor;

(*c*) whether he recently sent telegrams to two M.L.As. to intervene with the Chief Minister and the Revenue Minister to cancel the reversion order and to retain him at Sivakasi;

(*d*) whether any representation on his behalf was made by M.L.As.;

(*e*) if so, what disciplinary action has been taken against him; and

(*f*) whether any illegal collections were made by him to meet the expenditure in connexion with the visit of Members of the Board of Revenue?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Sir, the post of Revenue Divisional Officer, Sivakasi, was held by a temporary Deputy Collector between 21st June 1954 and 14th March 1955. Although during this period the Government ordered his reversion, the reversion was not given effect to as exigencies of public service, viz., the impending bye-election required his continuance in that post. He has since been transferred as Revenue Divisional Officer, Palghat.

" (*c*) The Government have no information.

" (*d*) No.

" (*e*) Does not arise.

" (*f*) The Government are not aware of any such thing."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Why was this gentleman under reference reverted and what were the charges pending against him? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Sir, he was reverted in the usual course. There are no charges pending against him."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Did not the Government know of the impending bye-election when the order for reversion was made? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Sir, the Revenue Divisional Officer of that place was also the Returning Officer. He is only a temporary Deputy Collector and when the senior man returned from leave he had to be reverted in the normal course. As there was the impending bye-election at that time, he was continued for a few days."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் யுஷுவல் கோர்ஸிலே அவர் ரிவர்ட் செய்யப்பட்டார் என்று கூறினார்கள். சாதாரணமாக சர்க்காரில் அதிகாரிகளை பிரமோஷன் செய்வது வழக்கமா அல்லது அவர்களை ரிவர்ட் செய்வதுதான் வழக்கமா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" I am afraid the hon. Member seemed to be a novice in this respect. He was on an acting job and when the period was over he had to revert."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is the Hon. the Minister for Revenue aware of the fact that there are allegations against this officer that he has collected huge sums of money from the public to entertain the members of the Board of Revenue when they visited that locality? Even if the Government are not aware of the fact, may I know whether they will be pleased to institute an enquiry into this matter and entrust this matter with the Special Branch Police and ask the Special Branch to find out what exactly is the truth of the whole matter? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Sir, there must be some basis for conducting an enquiry. Imaginary allegations will not do."

District Soldiers' Boards

* 1716 *Q.*—SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) in how many districts, the District Soldiers' Boards are functioning ;

(*b*) who is the head of these boards in every district; and

(*c*) what these boards actually do?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) There are thirteen District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Boards in the State,